

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 5-17 and amend Claims 1-4 as shown below:

1. (Currently amended) A process for modifying flowering in plants comprising transforming the plants with a construct comprising a complete or partial DNA sequence coding for an ATH1 gene product under the control of a promoter functional in plants, wherein the gene product is encoded by the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1 and modifies flowering in plants.

2. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 whereby the flowering process in plants is promoted by transforming the plants using a construct that inhibits the production of ATH1 protein, wherein the ATH1 protein is encoded by the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1.

3. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 2 in which the construct is adapted to express RNA antisense to RNA produced by the ATH1 gene, wherein the ATH1 gene comprises the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1.

4. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 whereby the flowering process in plants is retarded by transforming the plants using a construct that promotes the production of the ATH1 protein, wherein the ATH1 protein is encoded by the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1.

5-17. (Canceled)

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESSSM
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100